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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Ili Area

1. The bodies of Ahmedjan Kasimov (Kasimi) and four other leaders of the Ili regime were brought to Suiting (Ili)\*from Moscow and given a state funeral attended by Burhan and all senior officials.\*\*
2. The Ili regime, having been promised Turki autonomy, is now obliged to face the problem of billeting many Chinese Communist troops.
3. Saifeddin Azizi, deputy chairman of the Sinkiang Provincial Government, has returned to Ili from Moscow without visiting Urumchi, as he and his party feel let down. The Turki members of the Ili faction, of whom Ahmedjan Kasimov was the leader, tend to side with Osman.
4. The Soviets intend to establish the head offices of two new development companies at Ili\*, staffed with Soviet Tatars and others used to Soviet methods. These men will speak the same dialect and wear the same clothing as the natives of Sinkiang Province, and will appear to be Chinese subjects. This will provide for an entirely Communist staff and eliminate the risk of non-Communists penetrating Soviet Central Asia.

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Guerrilla Activity

5. [redacted] a battle took place between Chinese Communist troops and guerrillas from Ch'angchi (87-17, 44-03), Fouk'ang (88-10, 44-10), Ch'it'ai (89-28, 44-03) and Chenhsi (92-55, 43-36) under Osman and Janimkhan. About seven thousand guerrillas were involved in this action, including seven cavalry divisions and mounted infantry of the 27 Division as well as some Naiman Kazaks. The guerrillas were reported to have lost 900 killed and wounded\*\*\*; the Chinese Communist casualties were not reported. One Communist force had attacked west from Chenhsi, and another east from Tasathfou\*\*\*\* Pass, through T'ienhsan.
6. On the pretense of suppressing guerrillas, the Chinese Communist troops have

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been going systematically from valley to valley, burning tents and looting cattle, thus depriving the inhabitants of the means of livelihood.

7. If the guerrillas are driven out of the T'ien-shan area, it is likely that they will retreat to the Kunlun Mountains, in hope of receiving help from Tibet.
8. The large numbers of Chinese Communist troops at Ili\* and Chuguchak may be intended to prevent any guerrillas from crossing into Kazakhstan and causing trouble for the Soviets.

Civil Aviation

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9. It was expected that the Hami-Ata air line would start the first passenger and mail service from Peiping to Alma Ata [redacted] Gasoline for the stop at Urumchi was being flown in by transport.

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- \* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] Ili, a name which is frequently applied to Suiting, and occasionally to Kuldja. It is possible that Kuldja is intended in all these references.

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- \*\* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] Ahmedjan Kasimov and other Ili delegates to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference had been killed in an airplane crash on their way to Peiping.

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[redacted] Comment. The nearest approximation to the name received is Tashkent'ou (91-10, 32-45), but this is considerably to the east of T'ien-shan.

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